

## Message Text

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ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 OTPE-00 A-01 DODE-00 CCO-00

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O 250844Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3357

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM US UR

SUBJECT: MEETING ON US-USSR DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS LINK -  
MOSCOW

REF: A) MOSCOW 13068

B) STATE A-8606

C) USDEL TORREMOLINOS 73

1. EMB DELIVERED REVISION 15 TO INTELSAT SSOG VOL. 1 TO NOVIKOV OF MIN COMMUNICATIONS OCT 24, TAKING OCCASION TO RE-EMPHASIZE NEED FOR MOLNIYA GUIDES ASAP.
2. ON RECEIPT OF LIST MEMBERS U.S. DELEGATION NOVIKOV NOTED THAT SOVIET PARTICIPANTS HAD NOT YET ALL BEEN CHOSEN AND THAT SOVIET LIST WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR SOME DAYS. HE NOTED ALSO THAT MINASHIN AND COLLEAGUES ARE COMPLETING MOLNIYA GUIDE AND HOPE TO HAVE IT IN EMBASSY'S HANDS SHORTLY.
3. NOVIKOV CALLED EMBASSY BY PHONE OCT 25 TO SAY THAT THOROUGH REVIEW SOVIET PREPARATIONS REVEALS CLEARLY THAT SOVIETS WILL NOT BE READY TO START TALKS NOVEMBER 14 AS PLANNED. MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT TALKS BE POSTPONED ONE WEEK AND RESCHEDULED TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 21. EMBASSY PROMISED CONVEY THIS PROPOSAL TO DEPARTMENT AND TO NOTIFY NOVIKOV AS SOON AS WASHINGTON RESPONSE AVAILABLE.

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IN COURSE OF OCT 24 CONVERSATION WITH NOVIKOV, MINCOMM

PROTOCOL CHIEF SMIRNOV, WHO ALSO PRESENT, NOTED RECEIPT OF MESSAGE FROM SHAMSHIN (REF C) AND ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED PREPARE PROGRAM FOR U.S. DELEGATION VISIT. HE NEEDS INFORMATION ON SIGHTSEEING AND OTHER CULTURAL INTERESTS DELEGATION MEMBERS. DOES U.S. GROUP PREFER CIRCUS, BALLET, OPERA OR THEATER? APART FROM MUSEUM VISITS TO KREMLIN, TRET'YAKOV AND PUSHKIN GALLERIES, DO ANY MEMBERS OF GROUP HAVE OTHER SPECIAL DESIRES?

5. COMMENT: NOVIKOV CLEARLY UNAWARE OF LAG IN SOVIET PREPARATIONS UNTIL AFTER EMBOFF VISIT OCT 24. REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT, HE LET SLIP MINASHIN ESTIMATE THAT TWO ADDITIONAL WEEKS WOULD BE NECESSARY FINISH MOLNIYA GUIDE AND THAT SOVIET HOLIDAY WEEK NOV 4-11 WOULD FURTHER DELAY APPROVAL WITHIN MINISTRY.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST DEPT'S RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DELAY IN OPENING TALKS TO NOV 21. IF DEPT CONCURS EMB WILL ADJUST HOTEL RESERVATIONS ACCORDINGLY AND THEREFORE NEEDS NEW ITINERARIES AS AVILABLE. DUBS

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## Message Attributes

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